GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2453
ANSWERED ON:01.08.2016
Deemed Universities
Premachandran Shri N.K.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to encourage deemed universities;
(b) if so, the criteria fixed by the Government for declaration of an educational institutions as deemed university;
(c) whether the Government proposes to change the amount of grant provided to the deemed universities and if so, the action taken thereof;
(d) the mechanism introduced by the Government to monitor the quality of education in the deemed universities;
(e) whether it has come to the notice of the Government that fake universities have given advertisement to attract students and if so, the action taken by the Government against those who misrepresent the facts; and
(f) whether the Government has control to fix the curriculum, extra-curricular activities, quality of education, infrastructure facilities and fee structure etc. of a deemed university, if so, the details of the criteria fixed by the Government?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) & (b): In order to regulate the process of declaration of higher educational institutions as deemed to be universities, University Grants Commission (UGC) has approved the UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016 in its 516th meeting held on 15.6.2016 which was notified on 11.7.2016. The eligibility criteria for declaring an institution as deemed to be university is elaborated under Clause 4.0 of the UGC Regulations, 2016, which is available on UGC's website www.ugc.ac.in.
(c): No, Madam.
(d): In the Regulations, intensive external review of every deemed to be university has been made mandatory by UGC once in every five years. In addition, it is mandatory for the institutes to submit regulatory compliance certificate every year to UGC and to participate in National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF).
(e): The UGC has listed 22 known fake universities operating in the country which is available on www.ugc.ac.in. The Ministry vide its D.O. letter No. 12-3/2015/U3A dated 21st July, 2015 requested the Chief Secretaries of respective State Governments to investigate the matter and register complaints in police station against these fake universities. Prosecution may also be initiated against those who are involved in defrauding and cheating students by misrepresenting themselves as "Universities" awarding degrees with their name.
UGC has also taken several steps against these fraudulent universities. Some of the steps are as follows:
(i) For the awareness of general public/students/parents, the UGC puts up the list of fake institutions on its website i.e. www.ugc.ac.in. All self-styled unrecognized and unapproved institutions are cautioned that running of Undergraduate and Postgraduate degree courses and giving misleading advertisements shall attract severe action under the provisions of appropriate laws including the UGC Act and the Indian Penal Code, etc.
(ii) At the beginning of every academic session, the UGC issues Press Release and Public Notice and State-wise list of fake universities in the country in national dailies and Newspapers in Hindi and English to warn the aspiring students, guardians and the public at large not to take admission in the courses run by the self-styled, unauthorized fake universities/institution of higher education functioning in different parts of the country.
(iii) Cases have also been filed in various courts by UGC against fake universities/institutions. Various cases are pending in the court of law filed by the fake universities/unrecognized institutes.
(iv) The UGC in the interest of general public/students defends the cases in the court. Action relating to closing down the fake institution is to be taken by the concerned state government and local authorities.
(v) The UGC has sent letters to the State/UT Principal Secretaries/Education Secretaries to

take appropriate action against the fake universities located in their jurisdiction.
(vi) The UGC has also written to the Vice Chancellor/ Director, in charge of the all fake universities to close down the institutions immediately.
(vii) Reminder letters dated 1st April, 2016 have been issued to the State/UT Principal Secretaries/Education Secretaries to take the appropriate action against the fake universities located in their jurisdiction.
(f): The curriculum, extra-curricular activities, quality of education, infrastructure facilities and fee structure of deemed to be universities are regulated as per the provisions of UGC (Institutions Deemed to be Universities) Regulations, 2016. The Regulations provide for financial and academic autonomy of the universities while at the same time prohibit the institutes from charging of capitation fee or donation and from indulging in commercialization of education.
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